

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3997) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide earnings assistance and tax relief to members of the uniformed services, volunteer firefighters, and Peace Corps volunteers, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendments at the desk be considered and agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read the third time and passed; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3847) was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The amendment (No. 3848) was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief and protections for military personnel, and for other purposes."

The bill (H.R. 3997), as amended, was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 3997

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that if the Senate receives from the House a message on H.R. 3997 with an amendment that is not germane to the Senate amendment with the underlying bill, that the bill and its amendments be referred to the Finance Committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2461

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2461) to authorize the transfer of certain earmarked funds to accounts for operations and activities in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 8:30 a.m., Thursday, December 13; that on Thursday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 2419, with the time until 9:15 a.m. equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees for debate only; that at 9:15 a.m., the Senate vote in relation to the Dorgan amendment No. 3695, as modified, as provided for under a previous order; that upon disposition of the Dorgan amendment, there be 2 minutes of debate prior to a cloture vote on the motion to concur with respect to H.R. 6.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 8:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business today, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 9:39 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 8:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARCIA STEPHENS BLOOM BERNICAT, OF NEW JERSEY, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND Plenipotentiary OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND Plenipotentiary OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA-BISSAU.

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

ROBERT F. COHEN, JR., OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS EXPIRING AUGUST 30, 2012, VICE STANLEY C. SUBOLESKI, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

HARVEY E. JOHNSON, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (NEW POSITION)

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on December 12, 2007 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

HARVEY E. JOHNSON, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (NEW POSITION), WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2007.